IN THE SPECIFICATION:

Please amend the paragraph beginning on page 11, line 22 as follows:

In accordance with the principles of the invention, the surfactant 44a initially present in the core 40 will tend to diffuse or migrate from the region of high concentration across the interface 43 to the region of low concentration in the sheath 42, as represented by the arrows labeled with reference numeral **[[41]]** 46. Molecules of surfactant 44b initially present at an external surface 48 of the sheath 42 produce hydrophilicity or wettability. Surfactant molecules at the external surface 48 of the sheath 42 are lost, as represented by the arrows labeled with reference numeral 47, by contact with another hydrophobic surface or by repeated wetting with liquid. Amounts of surfactant 44b and surfactant 44a present in sheath 42 migrate to the external surface 48 as represented by the arrows labeled with reference numeral 49. The radially outward migration reduces the surfactant concentration in the sheath 42. As the surfactant concentration drops in the sheath 42, surfactant 44a migrating from the core 40 into the sheath 42 replenishes the depleted concentration of surfactant 44a and surfactant 44b. As a result, the nonwoven web 32 (Fig. 1) will remain hydrophilic for a longer period after manufacture when packaged and with repeated exposure to liquids. The surfactant 44a in the core 40 serves as a reservoir for surfactant transfer, as required or otherwise on a time-delayed basis due to the difference in concentration, across the annular interface 43 to the sheath 42 and subsequently to the external surface 48.